



**NORTH DAKOTA**  
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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For More Information, Contact:

Kimberlie Yineman

Oral Health Program director

North Dakota Department of Health

Phone: 701.328.4930 or 701.204.3438

E-mail: [kyineman@nd.gov](mailto:kyineman@nd.gov)

### **Standing Rock Pediatric Dental Day Will Provide Free Dental Care to Area Children**

BISMARCK, N.D. – A Pediatric Dental Day event is being held October 11 and 12, 2013, at Standing Rock Reservation to provide free dental care to area children. A large group of pediatric dentists, general dentists, dental hygiene students, hygienists, assistants and office staff from across North Dakota, South Dakota and out of state will gather at Prairie Knights Casino to help brighten the smiles of about 300 to 400 area children, according to Kimberlie Yineman, Oral Health Program director for the North Dakota Department of Health.

Children attending the Dental Day will receive dental screenings, cleanings, sealants, restorative care, educational materials and prevention materials.

“There are many children in North Dakota who suffer every day with dental issues that cause them pain,” said Yineman. “The pain they have makes it difficult for them to focus in school, participate in activities, eat and even sleep. It’s inspiring to see all the volunteers that will show up for an event like this, helping kids get relief from pain and educating them about how to care for their teeth so they avoid future dental problems.”

Similar events like this that strive to address the unmet oral health needs of residents have been held in other states, with the help of America’s Dentists Care Foundation Missions of Mercy, a national non-profit organization based in Kansas. Studies show that American Indian children have three times more dental disease than any other population.

Portable dental equipment is being provided by America’s Dentists Care Foundation Missions of Mercy. Contributions have been received from many North Dakota dentists and dental organizations across the state to help defray the costs of the event. Dental supplies and technical support have been donated by Patterson Dental Supply of Fargo with the support of other dental supply companies. Many organizations have been involved with planning, sponsorship and volunteering for the event.

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600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200  
Phone: 701.328.2378 Fax: 701.328.2499

E-mail: [health@nd.gov](mailto:health@nd.gov)

*Visit the health department home page at [www.ndhealth.gov](http://www.ndhealth.gov).*

“We are so thankful to pediatric dentist Dr. Brent Holman for spearheading this Pediatric Dental Day event and to all the volunteers who are taking time to participate,” said Yineman. “All the volunteers feel honored to be helping the children. This truly will have such a positive impact on the health of the children of the Standing Rock reservation.”

For more information about the Standing Rock Dental Day, contact Kimberlie Yineman, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.4930 or 701.204.3438.

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